

Annex to Form PCT/ISA/206
COMMUNICATION RELATING TO THE RESULTS
OF THE PARTIAL INTERNATIONAL SEARCH

International Application No.
PCT/US2007/017121

1. The present communication is an Annex to the invitation to pay additional fees (Form PCT/ISA/206). It shows the results of the international search established on the parts of the international application which relate to the invention first mentioned in claims Nos.:
2. This communication ~~is not~~ ^{see 'invitation to pay additional fees'} the international search report which will be established according to Article 18 and Rule 43.
3. If the applicant does not pay any additional search fees, the information appearing in this communication will be considered as the result of the international search and will be included as such in the international search report.
4. If the applicant pays additional fees, the international search report will contain both the information appearing in this communication and the results of the international search on other parts of the international application for which such fees will have been paid.

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

| Category * | Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages | Relevant to claim No. |
|------------|---|-----------------------|
| X | US 2005/137016 A1 (ENZMINGER JOSEPH R [US] ET AL) 23 June 2005 (2005-06-23) abstract figures 1,2,4,5 paragraphs [0008], [0019], [0024] - [0031], [0034] - [0046], [0055], [0059], [0060] | 1-35, 37-46 |
| X | GB 2 392 276 A (HEWLETT PACKARD DEVELOPMENT CO [US]) 25 February 2004 (2004-02-25) abstract figures 1,2 page 2, paragraph 3 page 3, paragraph 3 - page 11, paragraph 4 | 1-35, 37-46 |
| X | US 2006/019749 A1 (MERATI BRUCE [US] ET AL) 26 January 2006 (2006-01-26) the whole document | 1-35, 37-46 |

☐ Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C.

☒ Patent family members are listed in annex.

* Special categories of cited documents:

- *A* document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance
- *E* earlier document but published on or after the international filing date
- *L* document which may throw doubt on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)
- *O* document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means
- *P* document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed

- *T* later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention
- *C* document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone
- *Y* document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art.
- *S* document member of the same patent family

This International Searching Authority found multiple (groups of) inventions in this international application, as follows:

1. claims: 1-35, 37-46

Method, network, computer program and server for combining information related to an player and obtained from at least a couple of different terminal devices, so that the player account is valid independently of the terminal used to access the game. Also, tracking software is installed on the client devices to collect information about the player.

2. claim: 36

Share gaming device that executes and manages a plurality of gaming processes.

Document D1 discloses (the references in parenthesis refer to D1) a gaming method, comprising: obtaining first gaming information regarding a first player's internet wagering games on a first device; obtaining second gaming information regarding the first player's wagering games on a second device; combining at least some components of the first gaming information and the second gaming information; and crediting a player tracking account of the first player based on combination of at least some components of the first gaming information and the second gaming information (paragraphs [0008], [0034], [0038]; figures 1, 2 and 5).

With reference to the prior art document (D1), the special technical features of the different inventions according to the above two groups of claims can be defined as follows:

claims 1-35, 37-46: The special technical feature with respect to D1 is that a tracking software is installed in the first device to obtain the first gaming information. This solves the objective problem of how to collect gaming information about the player's behaviour in a way that does not require involvement of a central entity such as a server.

claim 36: The special technical feature with respect to D1 is a shared gaming device with ability to execute and manage a plurality of gaming process. This solves the objective problem of how to make a more efficient use of a gaming device in terms of costs, space, energy, when providing to users a plurality of games.

However, these special technical features are not the same and are not corresponding because the features have different effects and solve different problems.

Therefore, the Search Division considers that the application claims two inventions not so linked as to form a single inventive concept nor having same or corresponding special technical features. And consequently, the application does not meet the requirements of unity of invention as defined in Rule 13(1) and (2) PCT.

Patent Family Annex

Information on patent family members

International Application No

PCT/US2007/017121

| Patent document cited in search report | | Publication date | Patent family member(s) | Publication date |
|---|----|---------------------|--|--|
| US 2005137016 | A1 | 23-06-2005 | AU 2004305525 A1 CA 2548955 A1 EP 1701771 A2 WO 2005061066 A1 | 07-07-2005 07-07-2005 20-09-2006 07-07-2005 |
| GB 2392276 | A | 25-02-2004 | GB 2391341 A US 2004078572 A1 | 04-02-2004 22-04-2004 |
| US 2006019749 | A1 | 26-01-2006 | NONE | |